SAIL have in the past appointed agents in the foreign countries for exporting steel. Such agents, however, are appointed on a case to case basis. There are no standing liaison agents for SAIL in foreign countries.

In case of indigenous purchases or purchase of imported items, suppliers appoint agents to represent their cases with SAIL. Such agents are not appointed by SAIL.

These appointments are in line with normal commercial practice.

(c) No, Sir.

High Power Committee to review Crop Insurance Scheme

694. DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Crop Insurance Scheme has not been working economically;

(b) whether Government have set up a High-Power Committee to undertake an indepth review of the functioning of the Scheme;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what are the terms of reference of this Committee?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. A Group under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary of Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture & Cooperation) has been constituted to undertake an indepth and critical review of the functioning of the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme. The other members of the Group are from Ministry of Finance, Planning Commission, General Insurance Corporation of India, Bombay, Government of Uttar Pradesh, Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute, New Delhi, National Sample Survey Organization and the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation.

The terms of reference of the Group are:

(i) To undertake an indepth and critical review of the functioning of the Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme with a view to suggesting policy changes etc. for improving its functioning in future;

(ii) Examine the proposed scheme for apple and sugarcane and reformulate the same in the light of the comments of the Committee of Secretaries on the subject.

Taking over of Iron and Steel works at Bhadravati

695. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka have recently forwarded a proposal regarding the taking over of the Iron and Steel works at Bhadravati;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government have since communicated to the Government of Karnataka about the take-over of the said works; and

(c) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Specific Plan for Group Housing Societies

696. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared any specific plan to permit and

facilitate Group housing construction in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have also made a review of the Rent Control Act, Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act and other laws relating to housing construction; and

(d) if so, what are the salient feature of the review?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) Housing is a State subject and the State Governments|U.T. Admns. have been given full powers to implement various Social Housing Schemes. Therefore, the schemes for Group Housing are to be taken up by the States|Union Territory as per their local requirements and Plan priorities.

(c) and (d) In respect of the Rent Control Act the Economic Administrative Reforms Commission has made a detailed review and its recommendations have been sent to all the State Government for making suitable amendments to their respective laws. Certain proposals to amend the Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act are under consideration of the Government.

हिन्दी सलाहकार समिति की बैठकें

697. **श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव :**
श्री राम चन्द्र विकल :

क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) हिन्दी सलाहकार समिति की गत दो वर्षों के दौरान कितनी बैठकें होनी थीं और वास्तव में कितनी बैठकें हुईं तथा उक्त अवधि के दौरान इन बैठकों का आयोजन न किए जाने के क्या कारण हैं ?

(ख) गत 18 वर्षों के दौरान भी राजभाषा अधिनियम तथा हिन्दी के प्रगामी प्रयोग के संबंध में वार्षिक कार्यक्रम को कार्यान्वित न करने के क्या कारण हैं और क्या इसे 1987-88 के वर्ष के दौरान कार्यान्वित करने का विचार है ;

(ग) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान राजभाषा विभाग से कितने पत्र, आदेश इत्यादि प्राप्त हुए और उनके कार्यान्वयन के संबंध में वर्तमान स्थिति क्या है ; और

(घ) राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति के सचिव अध्यक्ष तथा सदस्यों द्वारा किए जा रहे कुल कार्य में से कितने प्रतिशत काम राजभाषा हिन्दी में किया जाता है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में कृषि और सहकारिता विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री योगेन्द्र मकवाणा) : (क)से (घ) जानकारी एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।

Edible oils production

698. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present production of edible oils in the country;

(b) what is the shortage of the edible oils which are required to be imported;

(c) whether any schemes have been formulated to make the country self-sufficient in the production of edible oils; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when the self-sufficiency is likely to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) The production of edible oils during oil year 1986-87 is estimated to be about 35 lakh tonnes.